

A T A R I 400 A N D 800

SERIAL INPUT/OUTPUT PORT

USER'S HANDBOOK

INTRODUCTION

The ATARI personal computers communicate with peripheral devices over a 19,200 baud asynchronous serial port. The serial port consists of a serial DATA OUT (transmission) line, a serial DATA IN (receiver) line and other miscellaneous control lines described in the serial I/O Bus Protocol section. Data is transmitted and received as 8 bits of serial data (LSB sent first) preceeded by a logic zero start bit and succeeded by a logic true stop bit. DATA OUT is transmitted as positive logic (+4v = TRUE, 0v = FALSE). The serial DATA OUT always changes when the serial CLOCK OUT goes true. The CLOCK OUT then returns to zero in the center of the DATA OUT bit time.

This document details the mechanics of serial port communications. For information about proper peripheral device operations on a system level, consult the Colleen I/O Subsystem Manual and the application note "Adding a Non-Resident Device Handler to the Operating System." For information about serial communications that don't conform to the 19,200 baud serial protocol consult the Colleen Hardware Manual.

# SERIAL 1/0 PORT CONNECTOR

7/2/79

2	4	6	8	10	12	
0	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	3	5	7	9	11	13

1. Clock In
2. Clock Out
3. Data In to Computer
4. GND
5. Data Out of Computer
6. GND
7. Command
8. Motor Control
9. Proceed
10. +5 / Ready
11. Audio In
12. +12
13. Interrupt

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SERIAL PORT SIGNALS

1. CLOCK IN - Not required in present serial port protocol. Can be used in future synchronous communication schemes.
2. CLOCK OUT- Serial port clock. DATA OUT always changes when the CLOCK OUT then returns to zero in the center of the DATA OUT bit time.
3. DATA IN - 19200 baud data line to the computer.
4. GND - Ground
5. DATA OUT - 19200 baud data line from the computer.
6. GND - Ground
7. COMMAND - Goes to zero when a command frame is being sent.
8. MOTOR CONTROL - Motor control line for the cassette tape recorder.
9. PROCEED - Not implemented in present serial port protocol. This line generates an IRQ interrupt when it goes to zero.
10. +5/READY - Indicates that the computer is turned on and ready.  
Restricted use as a +5 volt supply.
11. AUDIO IN - Audio signal from the cassette to the R.F. modulator.
12. +12 VOLT -
13. INTERRUPT- Not implemented in present serial port protocol. This line generates an IRQ interrupt when it goes to zero.

# SERIAL PORT ELECTRICAL SPECS

## PERIPHERAL INPUT:

$V_{IH} = 2V. \min$

$V_{IL} = .4V \max$

$I_{IH} = 20 \text{ ua max}$

@  $2.0 V_{IH}$

$I_{IL} = 5 \text{ ua max}$

@  $V_{IL} = .4V.$

## Peripheral Output

(Open collector bipolar)

$V_{OL} = .4V. \max$

@  $1.6 \text{ ma.}$

$V_{OH} = 4.5 V \min$

With  $R_{ext} = 100 K.$

## Vcc/Ready Input only

$V_{IH} = 2V. \min$

@  $I_{IH} = 1 \text{ ma}$   
 $\max.$

$V_{IL} = .4V. \max$

Input goes to logic  
"o" when open.

## SERIAL I/O BUS PROTOCOL

1. Introduction
2. Bus Commands
3. Bus Timing
4. Current Devices

X - 1

## 2. Bus Command Types

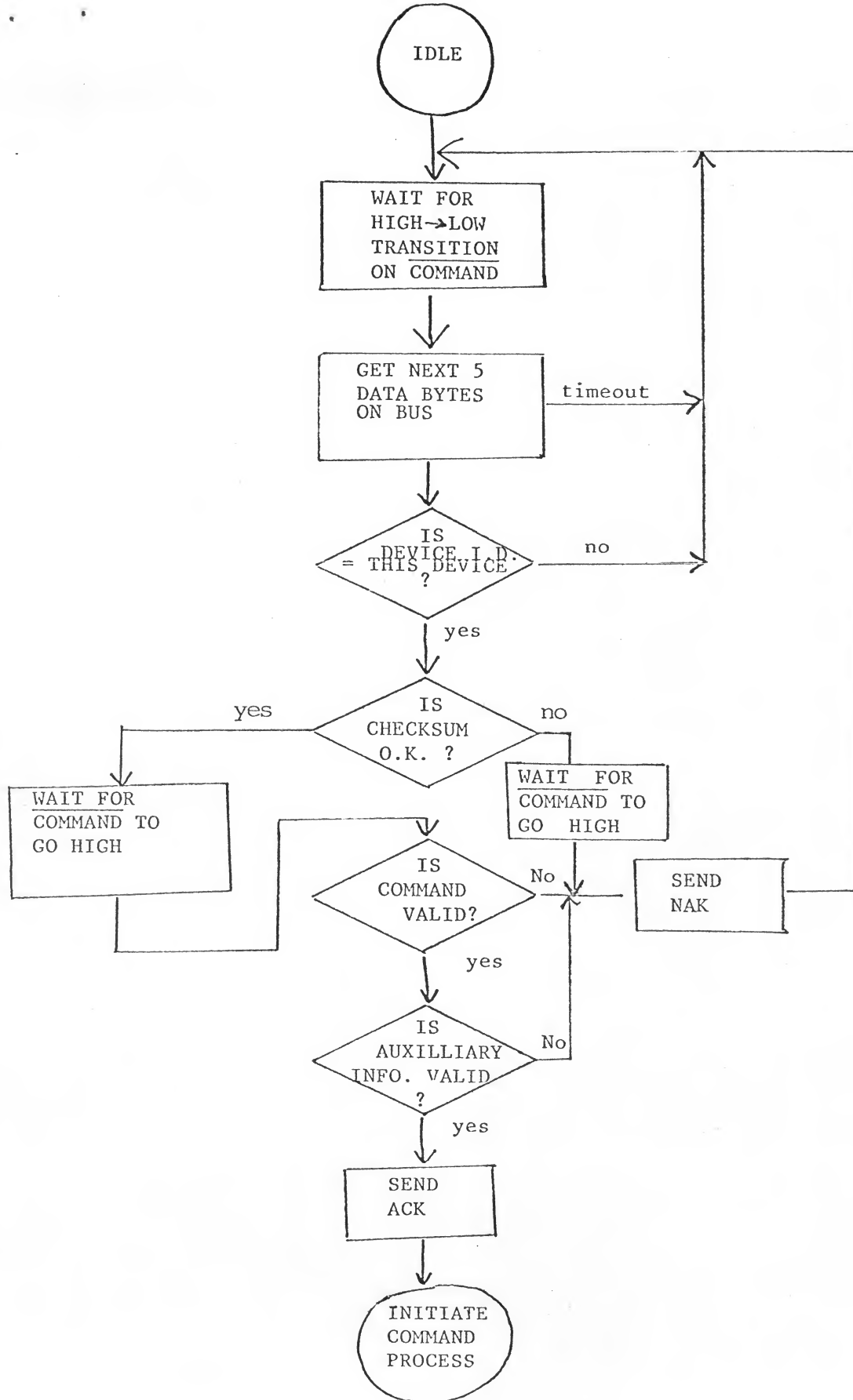
The Serial Bus Protocol accomodates three basic types of commands: 1) data send, 2) data receive, and 3) immediate (no data - command only).

The common element in all three command types is the command frame, five bytes of information sent while the COMMAND line is held low.

The command frame format is shown below:

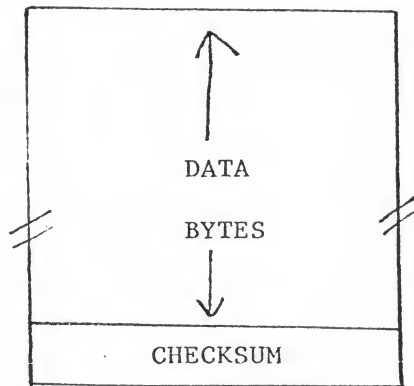
SERIAL BUS DEVICE I.D.
COMMAND
AUXILLIARY INFORMATION
CHECKSUM

The flowchart on the next page shows a typical device controller's processing of a command frame.





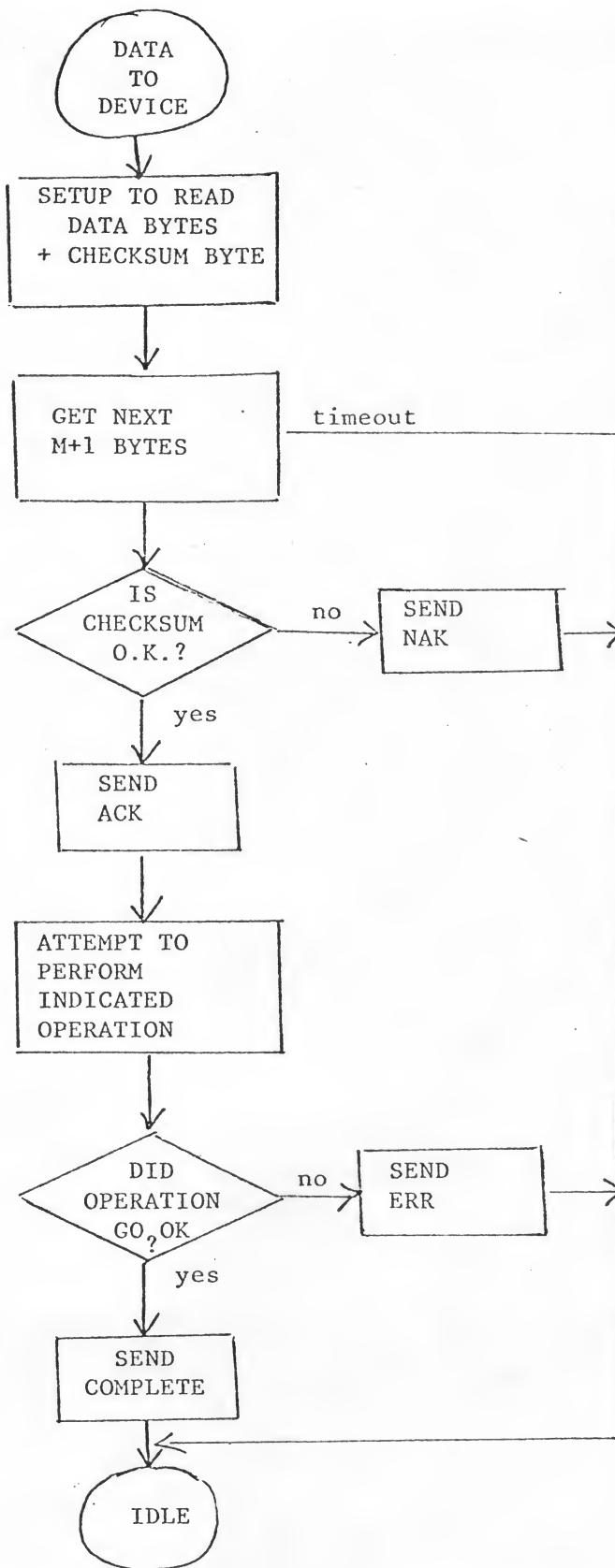
Following the command frame is an optional data frame which is formatted as shown below:



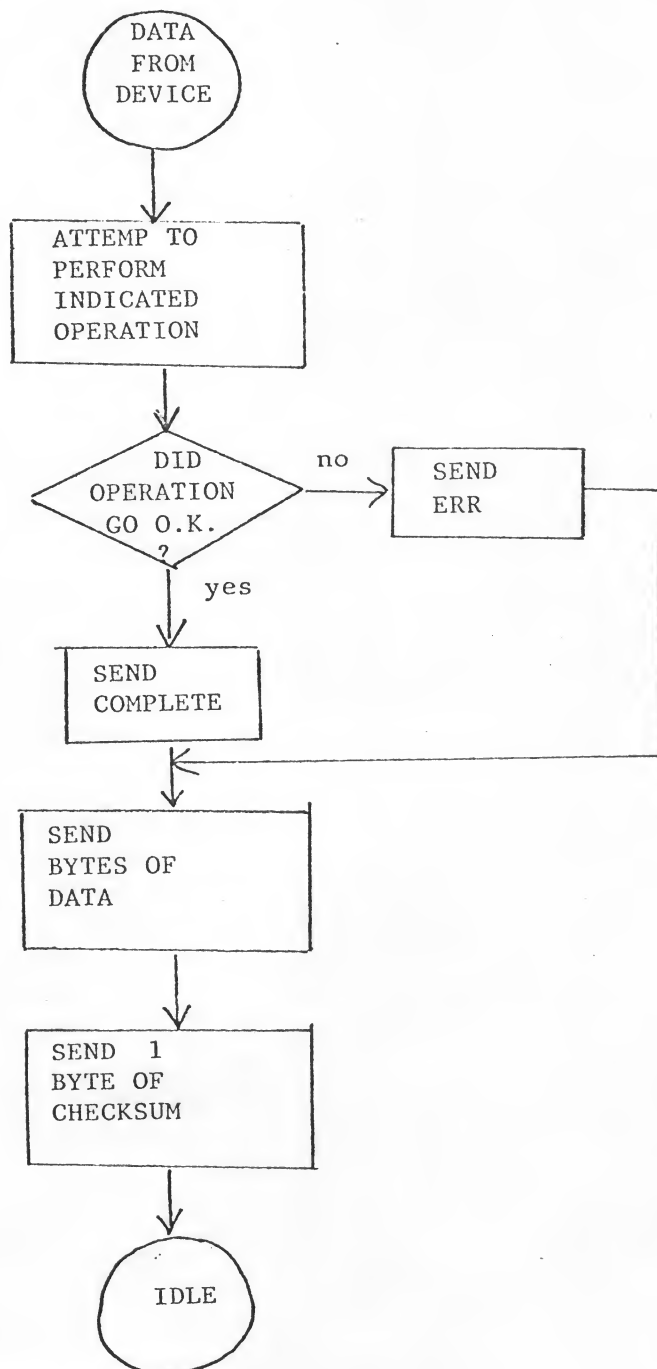
This data frame may originate at the central processor or at the device, depending upon the command. The flowchart on the next page shows a typical device controller's processing of a data frame from the central processor.

See appendix K for actual Serial Bus codes for ack, nak, complete, etc.

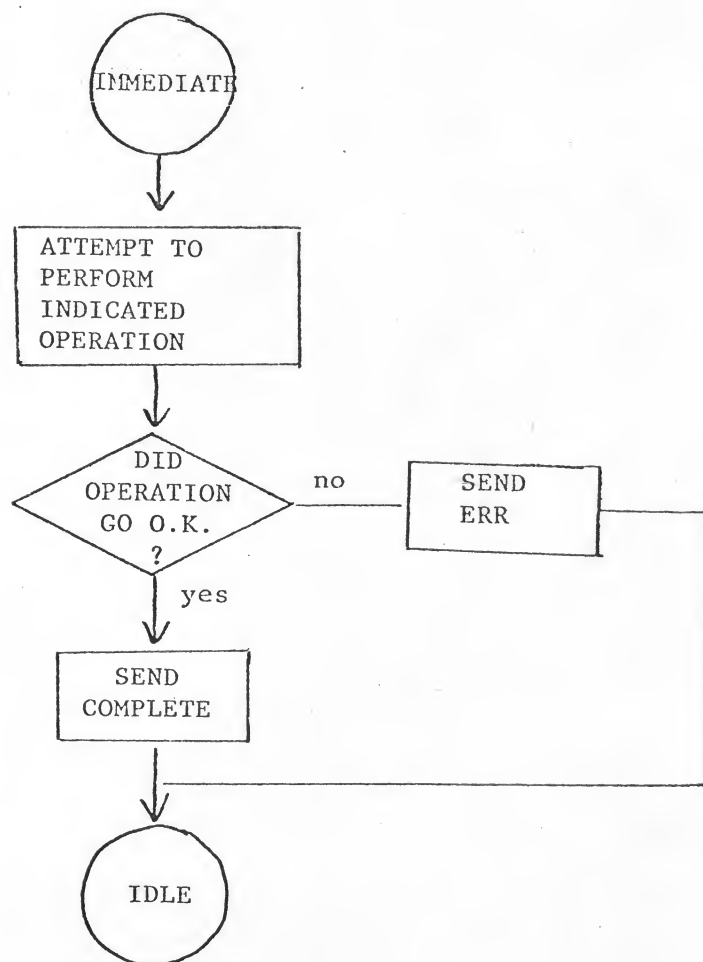
See appendix J for existing Serial Bus Device Id's (addresses)



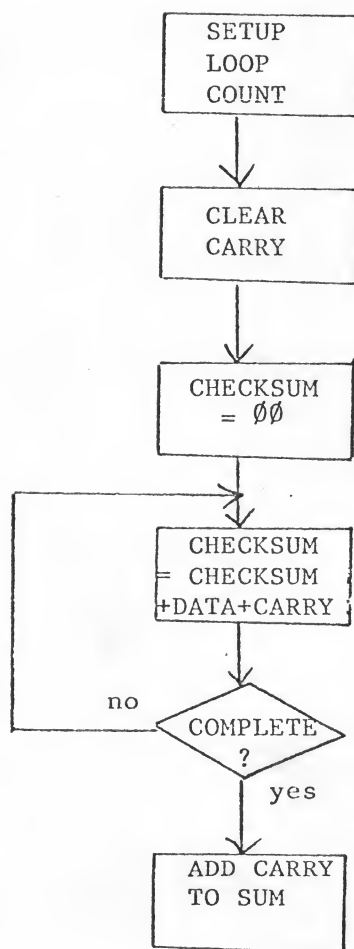
The flowchart at the bottom of this page shows a typical device controller's processing of a data frame to be sent to the central processor.



The flowchart at the bottom of this page shows a typical .  
device controller's of an "immediate" type of command  
- no data frame.



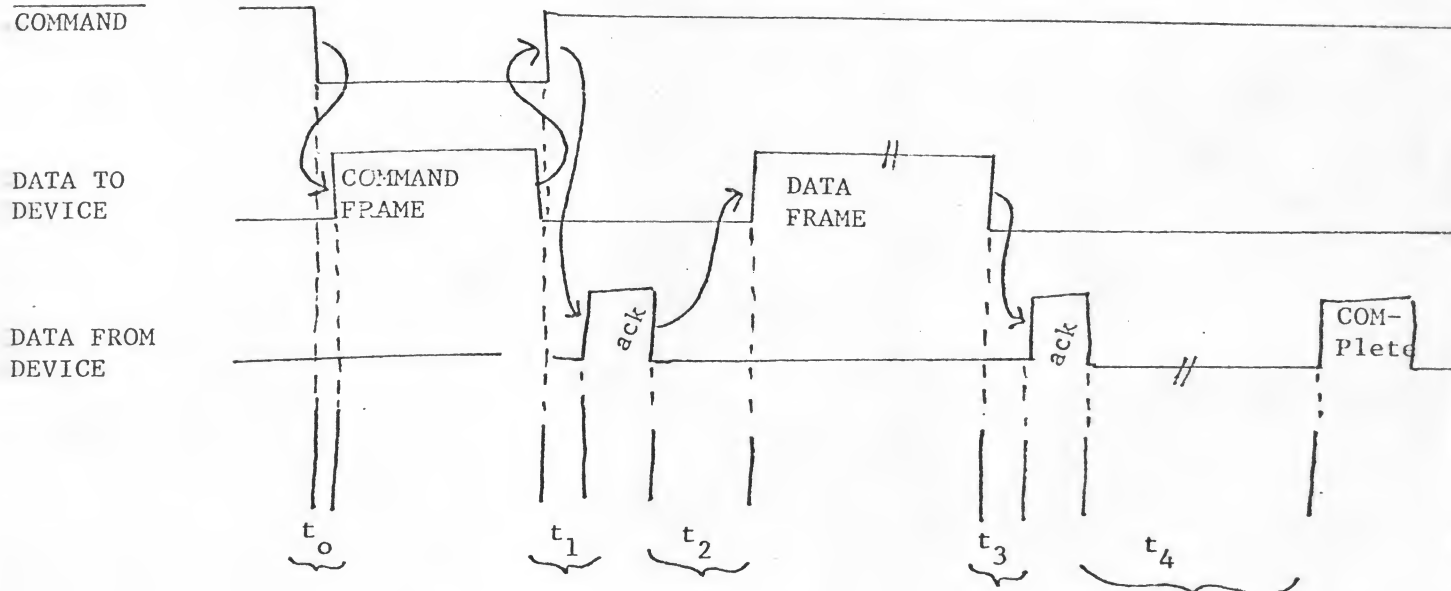
All checksums used as part of the serial bus protocol are simple 8-bit arithmetic sums using the carry bit, as shown below:



### 3. BUS Timing

The serial Bus Protocol accomodates three basic types of commands: 1) data send, 2) data receive, and 3) immediate (no data frame). A timing diagram is given below for each type:

#### DATA SEND



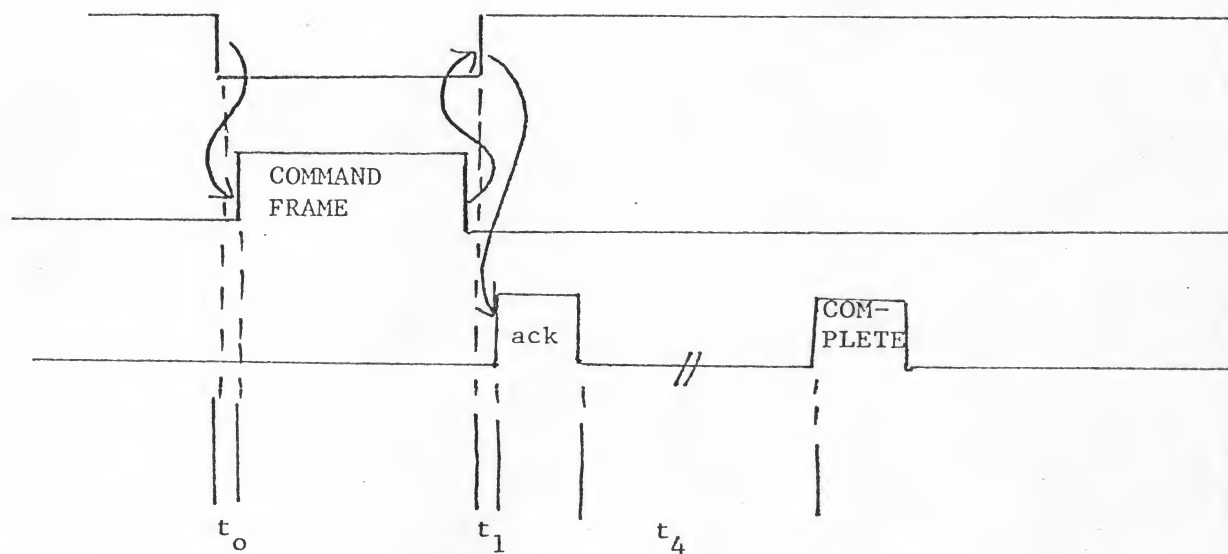
$t_0$ (command frame initiate delay)	= 100 usec - 500 usec
$t_1$ (command frame acknowledge delay)	= $\emptyset$ - 500 usec
$t_2$ (controller data receive setup time)	= 250 u - 1 sec.
$t_3$ (data frame acknowledge delay)	= 150 u - 15 msec.
$t_4$ (operation complete)	= 150 u - 00

# IMMEDIATE

COMMAND

DATA TO  
DEVICE

DATA FROM  
DEVICE

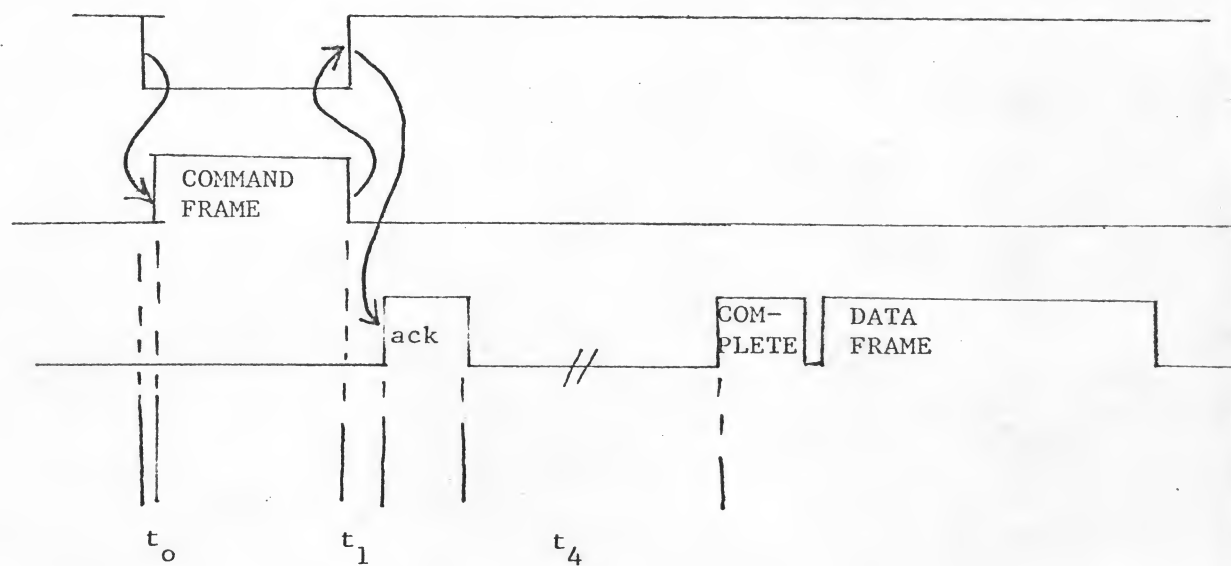


# DATA RECEIVE

COMMAND

DATA TO  
DEVICE

DATA FROM  
DEVICE



#### 4. Current Devices

This section provides information on the two current intelligent serial bus devices, the 40 column printer and the floppy disk.

##### 4.1 Printer (I.D. = $40_{16}$ )

The printer controller recognizes two commands:

WRITE and STATUS REQUEST.

4.1.1 The printer WRITE command frame contains the following values:

Command =  $57_{16}$

Auxilliary Byte 1 = print option

Auxilliary Byte 2 = undefined (not used)

Auxilliary Byte 1 (AUX1) will contain one of the following values -

$4E_{16}$  = Normal print (40 chars/line)

$53_{16}$  = Sideways print (16 chars/line)

The printer WRITE data frame contains either 29 data bytes plus a checksum byte, or 40 data bytes plus a checksum bytes, depending upon the value of AUX1 in the command frame.

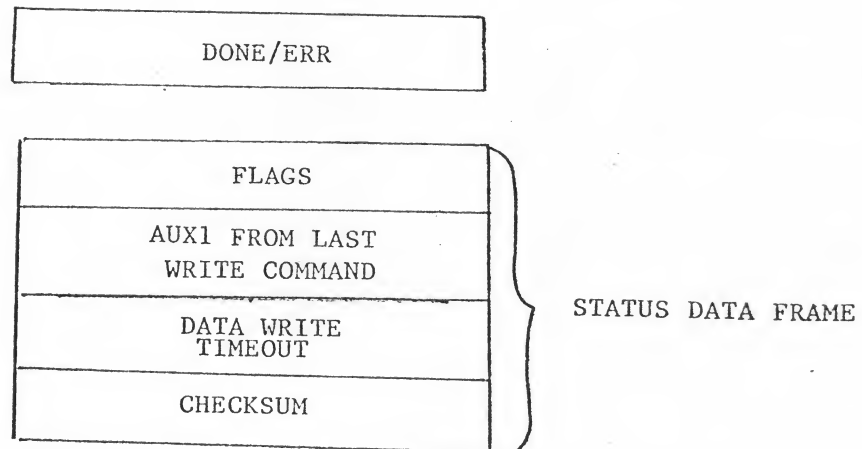


4.1.2 The printer STATUS REQUEST command frame contains the following values:

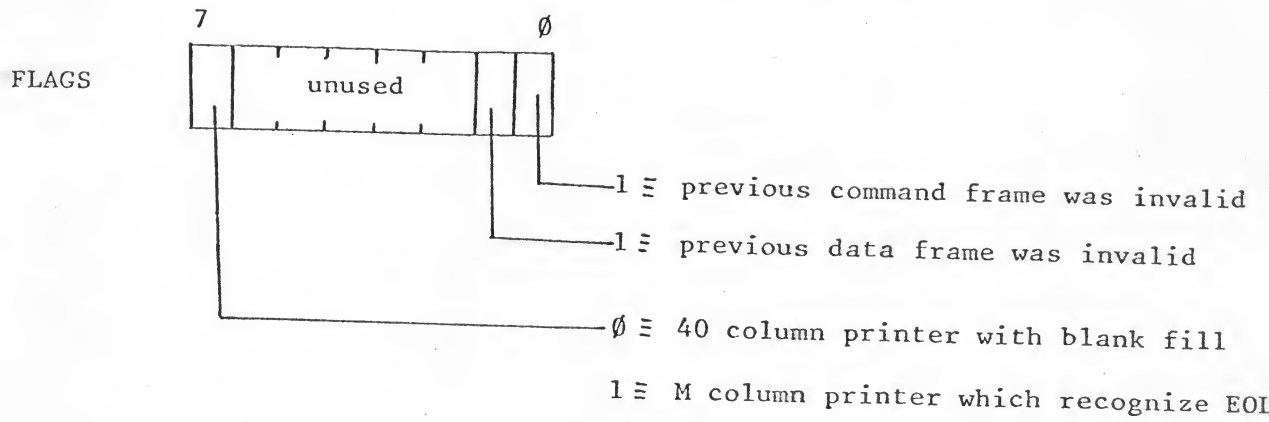
Command =  $53_{16}$

Auxilliary Bytes = undefined (not used)

The printer controller will return the status as a valid data frame as shown below.



The FLAGS byte contains information relating to the most recent command prior to the STATUS REQUEST and some controller constants.. The FLAG byte is formatted as shown.



Data Write Timeout

= maximum time to print a line of  
data assuming worst case controller  
produced cool-off delay.  
(1 sec.)

4.2 Floppy Disk Controller (I.D.s = 31-34<sub>16</sub>)

The floppy disk controller recognizes commands:  
READ, PUT, WRITE, FORMAT, and STATUS REQUEST.

4.2.1 The disk READ command frame contains the following values:

Command = 52<sub>16</sub>

Auxilliary Byte 1 = Disk Sector L.S.B. (1 - 720)

Auxilliary Byte 2 = Disk Sector M.S.B.

The disk READ data frame contains 128 bytes of data plus a checksum byte.

4.2.2 The disk PUT command frame contains the following values:

Command = 50<sub>16</sub>

Auxilliary Byte 1 = Disk Sector L.S.B. (1-720)

Auxilliary Byte 2 = Disk Sector M.S.B.

4.2.3 The disk WRITE command (read after write check) frame contains the following values:

Command = 57<sub>16</sub>

Auxilliary Byte 1 = Disk Sector L.S.B. (1-720)

Auxilliary Byte 2 = Disk Sector M.S.B.

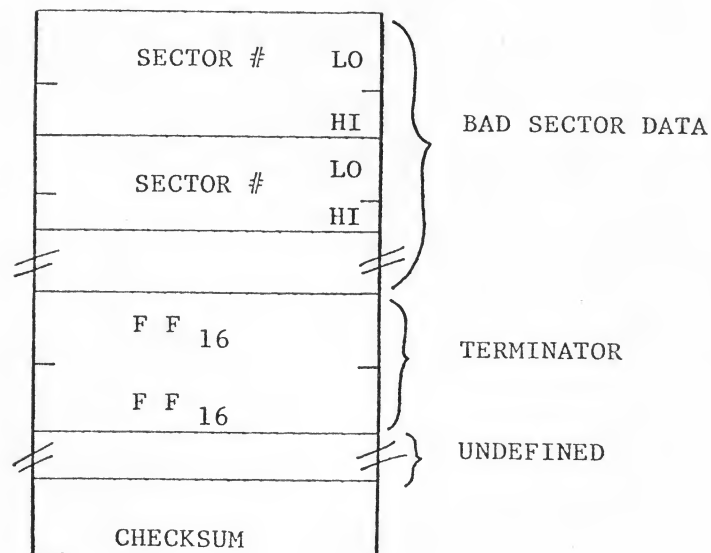
The disk WRITE data frame contains 128 bytes of data plus a checksum byte.

4.2.4 The disk FORMAT command frame contains the following values:

Command =  $21_{16}$

Auxilliary Bytes = undefined (unused)

The disk FORMAT data frame (returned by the controller) contains 128 bytes of data plus a checksum byte, formatted as shown below:



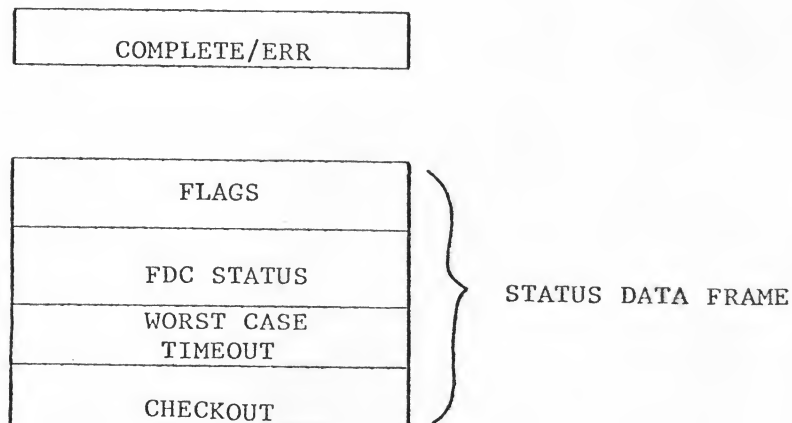
The disk is formatted and then verified by the disk controller; the FORMAT data frame contains from zero to 63 bad-sector numbers, followed by two bytes of all ones, followed by fill bytes to pad out the data block to 128 bytes, followed by a checksum. The sector numbers may be in any order.

4.2.5 The disk STATUS REQUEST command frame contains the following values:

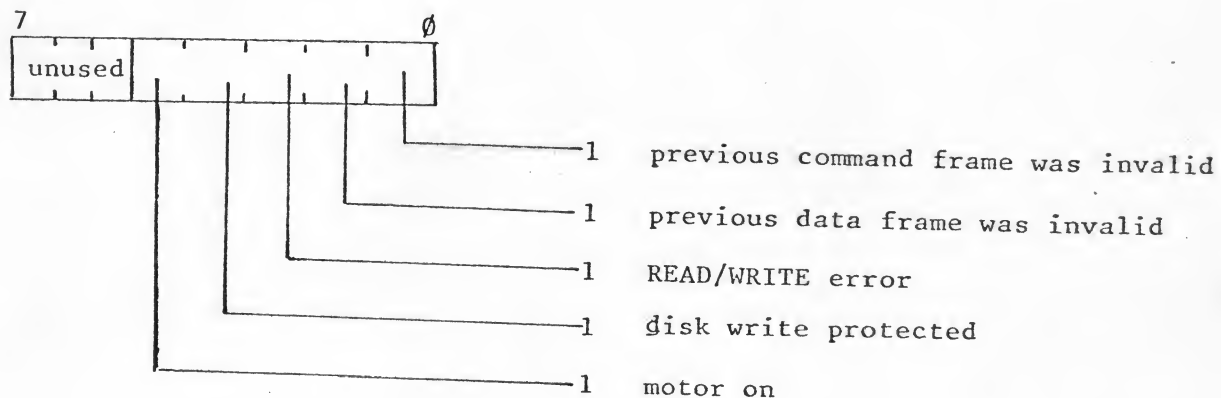
Command = 53<sub>16</sub>

Auxilliary Bytes = undefined (unused)

The disk controller will return the status as a valid data frame as shown below.



The FLAGS byte contains information relating to the most command prior to the STATUS REQUEST, and is formatted as shown.



Worst case timeout = maximum time to wait for slowest operation (FORMAT).  
(1 sec.)

Appendix K - Serial Bus Command Codes/Control Codes

<u>Commands</u>	<u>Hex</u>	<u>ASCII</u>
PUT	50	('P')
READ	52	('R')
WRITE	57	('W')
STATUS	53	('S')
FORMAT	21	('!')

Control Codes

ACK	41	('A')
NAK	4E	('N')
COMPLETE	43	('C')
ERR	45	('E')

Appendix J - Serial Bus Device Address

Floppy Disks      31 - 34<sub>16</sub>

Printer            40<sub>16</sub>

Modem             50 - 58<sub>16</sub>